

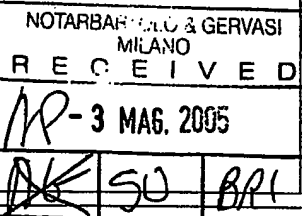
# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the  
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

## PCT

To:

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF  
THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of mailing  
(day/month/year) 29.04.2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference  
3954PTWO

### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No. PCT/EP2004/000060	International filing date (day/month/year) 08.01.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 09.01.2003
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Applicant  
TACCONI, Enrico

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary report on patentability and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices) (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed inventions is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:



European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas  
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# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>3954PTWO</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <span style="float: right;">See Form PCT/PEA416</span>	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2004/000060</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>08.01.2004</b>	Priority date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>09.01.2003</b>
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC <b>A47C16/02, A63B23/04</b>		
Applicant <b>TACCONI, Enrico</b>		
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i> a total of 1 sheets, as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>		
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I      Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II      Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III      Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV      Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V      Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI      Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII      Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII      Certain observations on the international application</p>		
Date of submission of the demand  <b>06.08.2004</b>	Date of completion of this report  <b>29.04.2005</b>	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:   <b>European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016</b>	Authorized Officer  <b>Amghar, N</b>  Telephone No. +31 70 340-3909 <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/EP2004/000060

**Box No. I Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
  - ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
    - ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
    - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
    - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements\*** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

**Description, Pages**

1-4 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-8 received on 08.11.2004 with letter of 04.11.2004

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/2-2/2 as originally filed

- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
    - ☐ the description, pages
    - ☐ the claims, Nos.
    - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
    - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
    - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
  4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
    - ☐ the description, pages
    - ☐ the claims, Nos.
    - ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs
    - ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*):
    - ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

\* If item 4 applies, some or all of these sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT  
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.  
PCT/EP2004/000060

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**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

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**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-8
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-8
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	

**2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7):**

**see separate sheet**

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY  
(SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/000060

**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;  
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

- 1 Reference is made to the following documents:  
D1: US-A-4 739 986 (KUCHARIK EDWARD J ET AL) 26 April 1988 (1988-04-26)  
D2: US-A-5 851 166 (BERNARDSON PETER S) 22 December 1998 (1998-12-22)  
D3: US-A-6 042 521 (DE GIORGIS FREDERICK CHARLES) 28 March 2000 (2000-03-28)  
**D4: FR-A-2 510 895 (DANINOS CHRISTIAN) 11 February 1983 (1983-02-11)**
- 2 The present application does not meet the criteria of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject-matter of the newly filed claim 1 (with letter of 04.11.2004) is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT.

The document **D4** discloses (the references in parentheses applying to this document):

a footstool device (see fig. 7, p. 4 li. 25-29) that comprises at least one footrest (1), one base (3) to which the footrest (1) is firmly attached by means of joints (2) (claim 7) capable to allow a free rotation of the footrest on a plane parallel to the plane containing the base (3) and its inclination, in relation to the plane, in all spatial direction (p. 2 li. 8-12), the footrest (1) being composed of a solid bowl shaped body with an internal cavity containing a mobile mass inside said cavity (cl. 4)

- 3 Dependent claims 2-8 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT in respect of novelty:
  - see D4, claim 7 for claim 2;
  - see D4, p. 2 li. 8-12 for claim 3;
  - see D4, p. 3 li. 18 for claim 4;
  - see D4, p. 3 li. 12-14 for claim 5;
  - see D4, p. 3 li. 15,16 for claim 6;
  - see D4, fig. 1 for claims 7 and 8.

## New Set of Claims

1. A footstool device characterised in that it comprises at least one footrest (11), one base (10) to which said at least one footrest (11) is firmly attached by means of joints (12) capable to allow a free rotation of said at least one footrest on a plane parallel to the plane containing the base (10) and its inclination, in relation to said plane, in all spatial direction, said at least one footrest (11) being composed of a solid bowl shaped body with an internal cavity containing a mobile mass inside said cavity.
2. A footstool according to claim 1 wherein said joints (12) are ball and socked joints.
3. A footstool according to claims 1 – 2 wherein said joints (12) are sized in such a way to allow the footrests (11) to tilt in the various directions without touching the ground or the base (10).
4. A footstool according to Claims 3 wherein said at least one footrest (11) has a circular shape.
5. Footstool according to claim 4 wherein said mobile mass is a liquid.
6. Footstool according to claims 1 – 5 wherein the upper surface of said at least one footrest (11) presents a layer of non-slipping material.
7. Footstool according to claims 1 – 6 wherein a single footrest (11) is present with dimension suitable for resting one or both feet.
8. Footstool according to claims 1 – 7 wherein said base (10) presents on the part that must rest on the ground, either adjustable feet that allow it to be raised or lowered as required, or non-slipping rubber pads.

EPO - DG 1

-8. 11. 2004

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